

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A device for delivery of a stent for ~~the~~ a vessel comprising:
a catheter for insertion into the vessel of a living body;
a balloon mounted on an outer peripheral surface of ~~the~~ a distal end side of said catheter and inflatable with a fluid supplied to said catheter;
a stent for the vessel mounted on said balloon in a diameter-contracted state, said stent being formed of a biodegradable polymer and having self-expanding properties; and
a stent holding member formed of a polymer material to a tube form for holding said stent for the vessel on said balloon, and configured for covering at least a portion of said stent for the vessel from said catheter;
said stent holding member having been drawn in ~~the~~ a longitudinal direction and being provided with a tearing assisting portion at a distal end thereof located towards the distal end of said catheter,
wherein the polymer material of the stent holding member includes polymer molecules oriented in the longitudinal direction.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein said tearing assisting portion is a vee-shaped slit provided ~~to~~ at the distal end side of said stent holding member.

Claim 3 (original): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein the distal end of said tearing assisting portion is closed by a connecting portion.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein said tearing assisting portion is a slit formed for extending along the ~~drawing~~ longitudinal direction of said stent holding member.

Claim 5 (original): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein said stent holding member is formed of PTFE (polytetrafluoroethylene).

Claim 6 (original): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein the proximal side of said stent holding member, located on said catheter, is secured to said catheter.

Claim 7 (original): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 6, wherein an air-vent through-hole is bored in the proximal side of said stent holding member secured to said catheter.

Claim 8 (original): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein said stent holding member covers up the entire length of said stent for the vessel.

Claim 9 (original): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 8, wherein the distal end of said stent holding member, provided with said tearing assisting portion, is contracted in diameter so as to be tightly contacted with said balloon.

Claim 10 (original): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein said stent holding member is connected to a yarn passed through said catheter so as to be pulled out partway from said catheter, and wherein said stent holding member may be released from the stent for the vessel by pulling said yarn outward from said catheter.

Claim 11 (original): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein said stent for the vessel is formed of a yarn of a biodegradable polymer to a tube form.

Claim 12 (new): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein said tearing assisting portion is an incision provided at the distal end of said stent holding member.

Claim 13 (new): The device for delivery of a stent for the vessel according to claim 1, wherein said tearing assisting portion extends in the longitudinal direction from the distal end of the stent holding member to a point prior to reaching said stent for the vessel such that the stent for the vessel is not exposed by the tearing assisting portion.